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In the preferred embodiment as displayed, within the thumb portion of the mitten 16 is an adjustable thumb strap 19 of leather or other appropriate material for added leverage and comfort of a particular size hand. A similar strap 18 is located on the outer edge of the finger portion of the mitten compartment 16 to accommodate one or more fingers for a similar purpose as described for the thumb. In the preferred embodiment, it is shown enclosing the third and fourth fingers.

While the invention has been described in connection with a preferred embodiment, it is not intended to limit the scope of the invention to the particular form set forth, but on the contrary, it is intended to cover such alternatives, modifications, and equivalents as may be included within the spirit and scope of the invention as defined by the appended claims.

What is claimed is:

1. A [fielding glove] baseball or softball glove comprising:

an outer shell having at least one upright finger portion, an outer shell thumb portion, and a web joining the thumb portion and the nearest upright finger portion;

a mitten shaped compartment having a mitten finger portion or portions adapted to receive [that in part holds] a user's four fingers, [comprised of leather or other appropriate material,] said mitten shaped compartment positioned and fixed upon or within the outer shell of the glove so that the mitten finger portion or portions [of the mitten] are aligned at an angle of approximately 40 degrees in relation to the upright finger portion [of the outershell glove];

said mitten shaped compartment having a mitten thumb portion adapted to receive a user's thumb [a thumb compartment of said mitten that is rotated forward in an approximately 20 degree arc from the plane of the finger portion of the mitten; and], wherein a fixed angle of approximately 90 degrees is between the mitten['s] thumb portion [compartment in its rotated position] and the [index] nearest mitten finger portion [within said mitten]; and

a mitten opening for inserting a portion of a user's hand into the mitten shaped compartment.

[a thumb portion of the outershell glove rotated forward in an arc of approximately 20 degrees from the plane of the finger portion of the outershell to conform to the chosen arc of the thumb portion of the mitten;]

[an opening for the hand into the mitten aligned in an approximately 40 degree angle to the upright finger portion of the outershell glove, and;]

[a web/pocket area of the outershell glove, within the valley between the thumb and first finger portion, that reduces the surface area where a hit or thrown ball impacts the user's hand.]

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2. A fielding glove as claimed in claim 1 wherein said web comprises a donut shaped hollow ring, centered in the aforementioned valley between the thumb portion and nearest finger portion of the outer shell glove, with straps attached to the ring that radiate out from the circumference of the ring in a star pattern attaching to various points along the edges of the aforementioned thumb and index finger and to a strap the bridges the tips of the thumb and nearest finger.

3. A fielding glove as claimed in claim 1 with a least one independent finger portion molded or shaped from the top to the bottom of said finger portion, in a concave shape in the approximate proportions or larger, than the ball size for which the glove is intended to be used.

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4. A glove of claim 1, wherein said mitten finger portion or portions extend only about midway between said mitten opening and an outer end of said upright finger portion, to thereby reduce the surface area where a hit or thrown ball impacts a user's hand.

5. A glove of claim 1, wherein said mitten thumb portion is rotated forward along an approximately 20 degree arc from the plane of the mitten finger portion.

6. A glove of claim 5, wherein said outer shell thumb portion is rotated forward in an arc that conforms to the arc of the mitten thumb portion.

7. A glove of claim 1, wherein said glove is a fielding glove.

8. A baseball or softball glove comprising:

an outer shell having at least one upright finger portion, an outer shell thumb portion, and a web joining the outer shell thumb portion and the nearest upright finger portion;

a mitten shaped compartment comprising a mitten finger portion adapted to receive the fingers of a user, and a mitten thumb portion adapted to receive the thumb of a user;

said mitten shaped compartment being positioned and fixed upon the outer shell of the glove and having a mitten opening at a base of said compartment for inserting a portion of said user's hand into the mitten shaped compartment;

said mitten shaped compartment configured to position a plurality of said fingers of the user at an angle of approximately 40 degrees in relation to the upright finger portion; and

said mitten shaped compartment configured to position said thumb and index finger of the user approximately 90 degrees apart.

9. A glove of claim 8, wherein said mitten finger portion extends only about midway between said mitten opening and an outer end of said upright finger portion, to thereby reduce the surface area where a hit or thrown ball impacts a user's hand.

10. A glove of claim 8, wherein said glove is a fielding glove.

11. A baseball or softball glove comprising:

an outer shell having an outer shell thumb portion, a web, a first upright finger portion, and one or more second upright finger portions, wherein said web and said first upright finger portion together define a pocket area positioned between said outer shell thumb portion and said second upright finger portions;

a mitten shaped compartment comprising a mitten finger portion adapted to receive the fingers of a user, and a

mitten thumb portion adapted to receive the thumb of a user;

said mitten shaped compartment being positioned and fixed upon the outer shell of the glove, wherein said mitten thumb portion is positioned adjacent said outer shell thumb portion and said mitten finger portion is positioned adjacent said one or more second upright finger portions;

said mitten shaped compartment configured to position a plurality of the fingers of a user at an angle in relation to said upright finger portions such that the fingers of the user are pointing toward an outer side edge of said outer shell; and

said mitten shaped compartment is configured to position said thumb and index finger of the user approximately 90 degrees apart.

12. A glove of claim 11, wherein said mitten finger portion extends only a portion of the distance between a bottom edge of the glove and a top edge of the second upright finger portions.

13. A glove of claim 11, wherein said glove is a fielding glove.